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09/735,222

12/11/2000

Atsuki Ishida

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05/28/2004

EXAMINER

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ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2144

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8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/735,222

Applicant(s)

ISHIDA ET AL.

Examiner

Michael S. A. Delgado

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/18/2001
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on 12/2/00 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1- 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6, 487,538 by Gupta et al.

In claim 1, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections, which connects a user to a network, comprising (Fig 3):

an IP address usage information storage means for storing usage information regarding an IP address in association with the user using the IP address (Col 9, lines 35-50); (The raw form of a website is represented by its IP address)

an access log recording means “Raw database” for recording an access log for a Web site in association with a IP address (Col 9, lines 35-50); and

an access information output means for referencing the usage information regarding the IP address and the access log for the Web site “profile information” , to thereby associate and output an address of the Web site and information of the user accessing this Web site “advertiser” (Col 6, lines 40-45).

In claim 2, Gupta teaches about a system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said access log recording means is provided in a substitute server "proxy server", through which the user terminal connects with the Internet (Col 9, lines 35-50).

In claim 3, Gupta teaches about a system as set forth in claim 1, further comprising: means for storing and identifying information on user permission to output access information, wherein said access information output means outputs the access information if the user permits an output of the access information (Col 14, lines 55-65).

In claim 4, Gupta teaches about a system as set forth in claim 3, further comprising: means for providing access information and collective user information for users who permit an output of said access information (Col 14, lines 55-65).

In claim 5, Gupta teaches about a system as set forth in claim 1, further comprising: a certification means for performing user certification, wherein said IP address usage information storage means associates and stores user information obtained by this certification means and the IP address usage information (Col 2, lines 50-60). (The firewall is equivalent to the certification means as they both prevent unauthorized user from accessing the information)

In claim 6, Gupta teaches about a system as set forth in claim 1, further comprising: means for categorizing and storing information on various Web sites (ISP and proxy) (Col 9, lines 10-20); and

means for referencing said access information from said access information output means and category information (user name, time spent, etc) to thereby associate and output a category of a Web site accessed and information of the user who accesses this Web site (Col 6, lines 40-45) (Col 9, lines 10-20).

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In claim 7, Gupta teaches about a system as set forth in claim 6, comprising:
means for accumulating usage category information of the user to thereby analyze user preferences (Col 9, lines 35-50); and

means for outputting preference information in association with the user ID “client IP address” (Col 6, lines 40-45) (Col 5, lines 15-30).

In claim 8, Gupta teaches about a system as set forth in claim 7, further comprising:
a content storage means for storing various contents (user name, time spent, etc)in association with the category (Col 9, lines 10-20); and

means for extracting contents from said content storage means and distributing the contents to the user “advertiser” based on the preference information of the user (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 9, Gupta teaches about a system for providing Internet user information, comprising:

means for storing the user information in association with Web site access information of the user (Col 9, lines 35-50);

means for categorizing (user name, time spent, etc)and storing information on various Web sites (Col 9, lines 10-20); and

means for referencing said access information and the category information to thereby associate and output the category of the Web site accessed and information of the user who accesses this Web site (Col 6, lines 40-45) (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 10, Gupta teaches about a system as set forth in claim 9, further comprising:

means for accumulating usage category information of the user to thereby analyze the user preferences (Col 9, lines 35-50); and

means for outputting the preference information in association with the user ID "Client IP address" (Col 5, lines 15-30) (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 11, Gupta teaches about a system as set forth in claim 10, further comprising:

a content storage means for storing various contents in association with the category (Col 9, lines 35-50) (Col 10, lines 40-50); and

means for extracting contents from said content storage means and distributing the contents to the user based on the preference information of the user (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 12, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections, which connects a user terminal to a network, comprising (Fig 3):

an IP address usage information storage means for storing usage information regarding an IP address in association with a user ID, the user ID using the IP address (Col 5, lines 15-30) (Col 9, lines 35-50);

a content storage means for storing contents corresponding to the user preferences in association with the user ID (Col 9, lines 35-50) (Col 10, lines 40-50); and

means for extracting contents corresponding to the user preferences from said content storage means and displaying the contents on the user terminal using the IP address (Col 10, lines 40-50) (Col 6, lines 40-45). (The evaluation process involves displaying the content at the advertiser).

In claim 13, Gupta teaches about a method for providing Internet user preference information, wherein an Internet service provider system obtains a web site access log for a user of the Internet connection service (Col 9, lines 10-20); and

the Internet service provider system generates and provides preference information of the user based on this Web site access log (Col 6, lines 40-45) (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 14, Gupta teaches about a method for distributing digital contents using the Internet, comprising the steps of (Fig 4):

(a) receiving Web site access information of a user (user name, time spent, etc) of the Internet connection service from the Internet service provider system to thereby generate preference information of the user (Col 9, lines 10-50); and

(b) distributing digital contents corresponding to the preference information to the user (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 15, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections, which connects a user terminal to the network, comprising (Fig 3):

a terminal server "ISP" for assigning a predetermined IP address to the user terminal and connecting this user terminal to a request Web site through an Internet network (Col 8, lines 60-67);

a certification server "proxy" for outputting IP address usage information of the user as well as performing a certification (equivalent to the function of firewall) for the user who accesses said terminal server (Col 2, lines 50-60) (Col 14, lines 55-65);

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a substitute server (ISP or proxy), through which the Internet connection is routed when the user terminal is connected to said request Web site in order to record/output an access log for the Web site accessed by said IP address (Col 9, lines 10-50); and

an update server “web server for advertiser” for referencing the access log, recorded/output by the substitute server, and said IP address usage information, output by said certification server, to thereby output the Web site in association with the user who accesses this Web site (Col 10, lines 40-65).

In claim 16, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections, which connects a user terminal to the network, comprising (Fig 3):

means for obtaining user signal source geographical region information (Col 5, lines 15-30);

a content generation means for generating contents according to a signal source geographical region “Palo Alto, Calif” (Col 10, lines 40-50); and

a content distribution means for distributing the contents generated by said content generation means to the user terminal connected to the Internet (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 17, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections as set forth in claim 16, wherein said means for obtaining user signal source geographical region information comprises:

means for obtaining signal source information of the user, which is included in an incoming signal from a telephone company “modem phone number” (Col 5, lines 15-35); and

a signal source geographical region determination means for determining the signal source geographical region based on this telephone number if said signal source information contains a signal source telephone number (Col 5, lines 15-30).

In claim 18, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections as set forth in claim 17, wherein said signal source geographical region determination means determines a geometrical region “in or around Palo” of an access point which is accessed by the user as the signal source geographical region if the signal source information does not include the signal source telephone number of the user (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 19, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections as set forth in claim 16, wherein said content distribution means distributes said contents to the user by routing a connection of the user to a site, which includes said contents (Col 6, lines 40-45).

In claim 20, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections as set forth in claim 16, further comprising:

means for storing IP address usage information in association with the user of this IP address (Col 9, lines 10-50); and

an access log recording means for recording an access log of a Web site accessed by the user using an IP address used for the Internet connection (Col 8, lines 60-67) (Col 9, lines 35-50);

wherein said content distribution means comprises means for comparing the IP address in log information recorded by the access log recording means and said IP address usage information to thereby determine a Web site accessed by the user and distribute contents related to this Web site to the user terminal (Col 9, lines 10-20) (Col 6, lines 25-35).

In claim 21, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections as set forth in claim 20, wherein said access log recording means is provided in a substitute server "proxy server", through which the user terminal is connected to the Internet (Col 9, lines 35-50).

In claim 22, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections as set forth in claim 20, wherein said content distribution means comprises means for storing categorized information on various Web sites (ISP or Proxy), and determines a category to which the Web site, accessed by the user, belongs and distributes contents related to the category to the user (Col 9, lines 10-50) (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 23, Gupta teaches about a system for distributing contents to the user terminal, comprising:

means for obtaining user signal source geographical region information (Col 5, lines 15-30);

a content generation means for generating contents according to the signal source geographical region for the user (Col 5, lines 15-30) (Col 9, lines 10-50);

and a content distribution means for distributing the contents, generated by said content generation means, to the user terminal (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 24, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections, which connects a user terminal to a network, comprising:

means for obtaining signal source information of the user from the telephone company (Col 5, lines 15-30);

a signal source geographical region determination means for determining the signal source geographical region for the user with this signal source information (Col 5, lines 15-30); and

a user signal source geographical information output means for outputting the signal source geographical region, the signal source geographical region determined by this signal source geographical region determination means, in association with the user (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 25, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections as set forth in claim 24, wherein the user signal source geographical information output means outputs the user signal source geographical information in response to an output request (Col 10, lines 40-50), the output request being from the Web site accessed by the user, for the user signal source geographical information which indicates the IP address of the user (Col 5, lines 15-30).

In claim 26, Gupta teaches about a system for Internet connections, which connects a user terminal to a network, comprising (Fig 3):

means for assigning an IP address to the user terminal and connecting the user terminal to the Internet (Col 8, lines 60-67);

means for storing user information in association with the user (Col 9, lines 10-50); and

means for outputting the user information to a Web site accessed by the user in response to an output request from the Web site for the user information, which indicates the IP address of the user (Col 10, lines 40-50).

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In claim 27, Gupta teaches about a system for distributing contents to the user terminal through the Internet, comprising:

means for obtaining user signal source geographical region information (Col 5, lines 15-30);

a content generation means for generating contents according to the signal source geographical region for the user (Col 10, lines 40-50); and

a content distribution means for distributing to the user terminal the contents, generated by said content generation means according to said signal source geometrical region (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 28, Gupta teaches about a method for providing information to an Internet user, wherein an Internet service provider determines the signal source geographical region for a user of its Internet connection service (Col 5, lines 15-30), generates contents related to this signal source geographical region and provides the contents to the user (Col 10, lines 40-50).

In claim 29, Gupta teaches about an Internet connection program product for issuing a command to a computer system to establish a dial-up connection (ISP software used by client) with a predetermined Internet connection access point "ISP", comprising (Col 5, lines 15-30):

storage media (Col 9, lines 35-50);

means stored in this storage media for determining a line network type used (Col 7, line 53- Col 8, line 15); and (ISP has to known the type of network it is connected to in order to communicate successfully with client)

means stored in said storage media for adding a signal source information provision code to a telephone number used for an Internet connection if a line network type being used is a predetermined line network type (Col 5, lines 15-30).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent by 6,701,362 by Subramonian teaches about a method for creating user profiles.

US Patent by 6,587,867 by Miller teaches about an internet-based subscriber profile management of a communications system.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael S. A. Delgado whose telephone number is 703-305-8057. The examiner can normally be reached on 7.30 AM - 5.30PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WILLIAM A CUCHLINSKI JR can be reached on (703)308-3873. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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May 25, 2004

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